

Human Services Committee  
Elise Granata  
February 21, 2023

Dear Senator Lesser, Representative Gilchrest, and esteemed members of the Human Services Committee,

My name is Elise Granata and I live in New Haven, Connecticut. I stand in support of S.B. 991, An Act Concerning Medicaid Reimbursement for Community Health Workers.

Currently, Connecticut's Medicaid program does not reimburse Community Health Worker (CHW) services or incentivize health care providers to work with CHWs. Community health workers are an effective way to address inequities and promote health, particularly for low-income households served by Medicaid.

29 other states, including every Northeastern state except CT, has state laws to strengthen federal community benefit regulations. Why? Tying community benefit programs to the needs identified by communities in the CHNA process and defining community participation are critical in ensuring community programs advance health equity.

**Medicaid reimbursement for community health workers should:**

- Center community and CHW voices in all stages of design and implementation
- Reimburse at rates high enough to employ CHWs at a livable wage and cover the costs of supervision, billing, and routine training
- Cover a comprehensive list of CHW services

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of S.B. 991, An Act Concerning Medicaid Reimbursement for Community Health Workers.

Sincerely,  
Elise Granata